



Dear {{FirstName or 'WOLA Supporter'}},

There's a moment when a room packed with human rights activists, government officials and journalists goes completely quiet, all eyes on a screen, tears streaming down many people's eyes. There are few things that can have that effect. Yet that is exactly what happened at WOLA's Human Rights Awards and Benefit Gala as Máxima Emiliana García Valey and Demecia Yat shared their stories of bravery and courage. The spoke about how them and other Maya Achi and Maya Q'eqchi women brought to bring the perpetrators of their sexual violence to justice.

This week, we bring you [some highlights](#) of what was a very special and emotional night – a very special thanks to all who helped us make it happen.

Also this week, WOLA's Director of Venezuela, Geoff Ramsey and I analyzed the importance of the work of the UN-backed Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Venezuela in [this opinion piece](#) for El País.

All that, and much more, in this week's Weekly WOLA.

Warmly,



Carolina Jiménez
Sandoval
President, WOLA



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- 🎧 In [the latest episode](#) of the Latin America Today Podcast, WOLA's Mexico Program Director [Stephanie Brewer](#) talks to Director for Defense Oversight [Adam Isacson](#) about the historic new lengths to which President Andrés Manuel López Obrador has taken militarization in Mexico, arguing that the road to resolving Mexico's citizen security challenges runs through its justice system—not its armed forces.
- 🇸🇻 In this Op-Ed for [El País](#) WOLA's Director for Venezuela [Geoff Ramsey](#) and President [Carolina Jiménez Sandoval](#) explain why the

renewal of the UN's Fact-Finding Mission is crucial to achieve a meaningful solution to Venezuela's crisis.

- 🗨️ With this [statement](#), WOLA joins the FFM in calling for effective, thorough, independent, impartial and transparent investigations into all those implicated in the human rights violations and crimes against humanity alleged in the report, and supports its renewal.

WOLA HUMAN RIGHTS AWARDS 2022



🏆 Learn more about the honorees of this wonderful evening [here](#).

🇸🇻 Read more about the work of Salvadoran human rights lawyer, [David Morales](#), lead prosecutor of the El Mozote massacre, and WOLA's Human Rights Award 2022 honoree.

🗨️ Learn more about how the Maya Achi and Maya Q'eqchi' women in Guatemala, who received WOLA's Human Rights Award, achieved justice in this [interview](#) with WOLA Senior Fellow Jo-Marie Burt.

📺 INCYMI: Watch [here](#) our recent event with the Maya Achi and Maya Q'eqchi' women & partner [DPLF](#).

THE BRAVE SEARCH FOR JUSTICE IN GUATEMALA



The Maya Achi women of Rabinal and the Maya Q'eqchi' women of Sepur Zarco have shown [exemplary determination](#) to bring to

justice the paramilitary and military officials responsible for [sexual violence](#) against them during the Guatemalan internal armed conflict in the early 1980s.

These women fought endless obstacles over the course of decades for government prosecutors to bring charges and for the courts to hear their cases. Today, they are an inspiration to millions of women and girls around the world who are seeking justice for wartime rape and other forms of gender-based violence.

READ THE LATEST BORDER UPDATE HERE



IN THEIR WORDS

"It is an honor for me to receive the WOLA Human Rights Award. I receive it as a personal recognition but also as a recognition of the work of everybody at Cristosal, who have supported relatives of victims of the El Mozote massacre in their long search for justice," David Morales said.



"For years, I've worked closely with foreign and domestic leaders to strengthen democracy, promote human rights, and create inclusive economic opportunities across the Americas [...] I look forward to working with my fellow nominees to uplift the voices of marginalized communities and local organizations and push for equality and justice for all.", said Congressman Joaquín Castro.



JOB OPENINGS

WOLA is seeking a **Communications Assistant!** We are looking for an administrative, entry-level professional to support two directors and their programs with a variety of tasks, including: event planning, clerical duties, database management, webinar and in-person meeting support, and other logistical support. Learn more [here](#).

SUPPORT WOLA

It's not too late to make a gift in honor of the work of all of our honorees at this year's 2022 WOLA Human Rights Awards and Benefit Gala. As you've read, each one of them faces tremendous odds and opposition to their fight for justice and equality. We know that you value their work, so what better way to salute their perseverance with a donation to WOLA in their honor? We thank you in advance for your generosity.



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